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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/975,586	10/11/2001	Peter C. Meltzer	70207/48,913-CON	9855

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EXAMINER

AULAKH, CHARANJIT

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1625	

DATE MAILED: 05/23/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/975,586	Applicant(s) Meltzer, P.C. et al.
	Examiner CHARANJIT AULAKH	Art Unit 1625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.
- 4) Claim(s) 22-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 22-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 10/2001 is/are a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some* c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

- 14) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

- 15) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). 5
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____

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DETAILED ACTION

1. According to a preliminary amendment (paper no. 5) filed on Oct. 11, 2001, the applicants have canceled claims 1-21 and furthermore, have added new claims 1-6. The newly added claims 1-6 are renumbered as claims 22-27, respectively.
2. Claims 22-27 are now pending in the application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

3. The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) do not apply to the examination of this application as the application being examined was not (1) filed on or after November 29, 2000, or (2) voluntarily published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b). Therefore, this application is examined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

4. Claims 1, 2 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being clearly anticipated by Kuhar (U.S. Patent no. 6,358,492).

Kuhar discloses dopamine transporter imaging ligand. The compounds disclosed in examples 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d and claim 1 of Kuhar clearly anticipate the compounds of instant claims when R1

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represents COOR_a and R_a is methyl and R₂ is a substituted phenyl in the instant compounds of claim 1.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Clarke (U.S. Patent no. 3,813,404), Kuhar (U.S. patent no. 5,496, 953), Davies (U.S. Patent no. 6,008,227 and U.S. patent no. 5,760,055) in view of Kuhar (U.S. Patent no. 6,358,492).

Clarke, Kuhar and Davies all disclose Tropane derivatives. The disclosed compounds of Clarke (see examples 1-14 and claims 1-8), Kuhar (see compounds RTI-183, RTI-218 and RTI-228 in table II), Davies (see compounds in table I) differ from the instant compounds in having the instant R₂ group as 3-beta isomer instead of 3-alpha isomer. However, Kuhar (U.S. Patent no. 6,358,492) teach that 3-alpha isomers of several 3-beta (substituted phenyl) tropanes exhibit selectivity for dopamine transporter since their affinity for serotonin transporter is reduced (see col. 2, lines 14-27). Therefore, one skilled in the art would be motivated to prepare the instant selective dopamine ligands (3-alpha isomers of tropane derivatives) by modifying non-selective dopamine and serotonin ligands (3-betaisomers of tropane derivatives) of Clarke, Kuhar and

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Davies since Kuhar teaches the selectivity of 3-alpha isomers for dopamine transporter over 3-beta isomers (see table 3).

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chana Aulakh whose telephone number is (703) 305-4482. The examiner can normally be reached on " Monday-Thursday " from 7:30 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.

If the attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Alan Rotman, can be reached on (703) 308-4698. The fax number for this Group is (703) 308-4556.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group's receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1235.


CHARANJIT S. AULAKH

PRIMARY EXAMINER